

REMARKS

Examination of the application as amended herein is respectfully requested.

After the final office action dated August 27, 2007, claims 1 – 64 were pending, claims 6, 8, 10 – 15, 18 – 27, and 42 – 64 were withdrawn, and claims 1 – 5, 7, 9, 16, 17, 28 – 41 were rejected.

By the present amendment, claims 1, 2, 4, 7 – 9, 17, 29 – 36, and 39 are amended, claims 6, 10 – 15, 18 – 28, and 42 – 64 (including all claims previously withdrawn) are canceled, and new claim 65 is added.

Basis for the limitations inserted in claims 1 and 36 and their dependent claims is found in the specification as filed at page 3 line 23 through page 4 line 13 (paragraph 14) and page 6 lines 9 – 27 (paragraphs 25 – 33), in the drawings as filed, and in original claim 28. In particular, the single unitary substrate is shown in drawing FIGS. 1A – 1B, 2A – 2D, 3A – 3B, and 4A – 4B, and reaction chamber (70) (extending over and contiguous with at least a portion of at least one of the cathode and anode) is shown in FIG. 1B. Basis for new claim 65 is found in the specification as filed at page 7 lines 19 – 26 (paragraph 39).

Previous rejections under 35 USC §112 have been overcome by deletion of the word "suitable" from claims 7 – 9. The claims as amended have been distinguished from the prior art by at least the following limitations: by the single unitary substrate, by the reaction chamber(s) extending over and contiguous with at least a portion of at least one of the cathode and anode, and by the formation of a membrane portion by thinning of the single unitary substrate (that membrane portion supporting the anode and cathode). None of the prior art includes the combination with all these limitations.

The application is believed to be in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested.

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Respectfully submitted,

Daniel A. Kearl et al.



By Theodore R. Touw
Reg. No. 36,702
Attorney/Agent for Applicants
Telephone: (541) 967-9133
Facsimile: (541) 967-9134

Please address written communications to:

Hewlett-Packard Company
Intellectual Property Administration
P.O. Box 272400
Fort Collins, CO 80527-2400